



BURMAN SPEAKS

PRESENTATIONS

WORKSHOPS

MUSIC

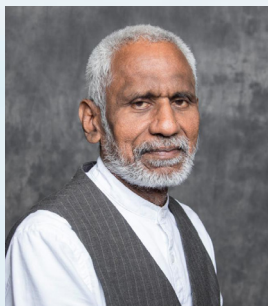
A photograph of a stone wall with a gable roofline. In the center of the gable is a circular emblem. Below the wall, the text 'BURMAN UNIVERSITY' is written in a large, dark green, serif font.

BURMAN UNIVERSITY

ESTABLISHED 1907

**Key speakers from Canada's only
Seventh-day Adventist University**

FACULTY



TENNYSON SAMRAJ, PhD

Professor of Philosophy

Tennyson Samraj is a lecturer in the philosophy department at Burman University where he routinely teaches courses on both philosophy and religion. He carried out his studies in India, earning his PhD in Philosophy at the Pune University. He has traveled extensively with his students across the globe, teaching about the various ideologies and paradigms that inform different cultures. His personal journeys have taken him to every continent on the planet, including Antarctica. Dr Samraj's passions lie with his students in the classroom and his artwork depicting portraits of many great and noteworthy figures in history.

BRUCE BOYD, DMin

Professor of Religious Studies

Bruce Boyd is a professor of Religious Studies at Burman University who specializes in conflict transformation - more commonly referred to as conflict resolution. He teaches courses in applied Christianity in addition to giving presentations in various venues, serving also as a conflict coach and mediator. Dr Boyd graduated with a Doctor of Ministry degree from Andrews University in 1995 and was recognized in 2003 as a Certified Christian Conciliator by Peacemaker Ministries.



PETER WASS, PhD

Professor of Psychology

Dr. Wass trained in Clinical Neuropsychology at the University of Windsor. He has been actively teaching as an Associate Professor of Psychology at Burman University for over 20 years, as well as supervising both undergraduate and graduate level students in both clinical and research activities over the years. He has been actively engaged for about 20 years in his private practice providing diagnostic assessments with children, adolescents, and adults who present with a wide range of presenting concerns and complaints.

PAUL & DONNALEE LEHMANN, MPH

Professors of Outward Pursuits

Paul Lehmann serves as the Chair of the Outward Pursuits department at Burman University. He has a passion for young people and helping them to develop their talents and capabilities. He is highly regarded for his role in mentoring and motivating both individuals and groups through his passion for training leaders, team players, and graduates dedicated to service. DonnaLee has had experience working in public health, health education, international development, occupational therapy, and administration. She is a passionate instructor and has been the leader of over a dozen international service projects. She actively teaches in a broad spectrum of areas including courses in Health, Adventure-Based Counselling, Outward Pursuits, and Wilderness Studies.



“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”

- Benjamin Franklin

“The good life is one inspired by love
and guided by knowledge.”

- Bertrand Russell



CRISTIAN NEACSU, DMA

Assistant Professor of Music

Romanian born violinist Cristian Neacsu is Assistant Professor of Music and Orchestra Director at Burman University. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from University of Illinois. Throughout his career Dr. Neacsu has had the opportunity to collaborate with and be mentored by prominent artists such as Stefan Milenkovich, Piotr Milewsky, Herbert Bloomsted, Sherban Lupu, Berick Yehonatan, Carla Trenchyuk, Kurt Sassmannshaus, Guillaume Tardif, Claudio Gonzalez, Corina Bololoi, Octavian Ratiu among others, and renowned groups such as Jupiter Quartet and Pacifica Quartet.

PEKKA MÄÄTTÄNEN, PhD

Assistant Professor of Biology

Pekka Määttänen completed a Specialist (Hon. B.Sc) in Cell and Molecular Biology at the University of Toronto. Having gained some undergraduate research experience, he pursued graduate studies in the lab of David Y. Thomas at McGill University and received his PhD in Biochemistry in 2010. With experience working for the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization International Vaccine Centre in Saskatoon and the Hospital for Sick Children Research Institute in Toronto, Pekka now serves as an Assistant Professor of Biology at Burman University where he is pursuing studies relating diet, mental health, and the human gut microbe.



STUDENTS



SAMUELLE HENRY

Religious Studies Major

Samuelle Henry is in her fifth year of studies at Burman University. Born in Barbados, she has lived in Canada now for six years and is working towards a Bachelors Degree in Religious Studies with a minor in Counselling Psychology. Since attending Burman, she has discovered a passion for activism with a particular emphasis on women's rights and feminist studies. Samuelle serves currently as the Administrative Director for Burman University's Campus Ministries team and is a frequent contributor to the student newspaper *The Chronicle*.

OLEKSII ZAHREBA

Student, PAA

Founder of BibleChallenges.me

An international student from Ukraine, Oleksii is currently enrolled at Parkview Adventist Academy in grade 12. Interested in International Affairs and Humanitarianism. His life goal is to provide as much help as he can to those who suffer from war conflicts around the world. Actively involved in ministering online and in a real life.



ALUMNI

LOREN AGREY, PhD

President, Burman University

Dr. Agrey's first sojourn at College Heights began in 1978 when he came to the high school division of Canadian Union College to begin his grade 11 year. When he graduated from high school in 1980, he began coursework at CUC to become a teacher. In 2010, Loren was asked to serve as President of Asia-Pacific International University in Thailand. Five years later, in order to be closer to family, he moved to Kettering College in Dayton, OH, to serve as Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs. In 2017, he returned to the Burman University campus to serve as the 25th president. His vision for Burman University focuses on growth, excellence, advancement, and student success.



AZALEA LEHNDORFF, MPH

Medical Student, University of Calgary

Azalea manages A Better World's 100 Classrooms Project, ensuring that accessibility to education for women is increased. Her extensive experience with humanitarian work has brought her from Kenya to Afghanistan to Iraq. She is the recipient of the 2018 ACGC Top 30 Under 30, 2016 CMA National Award for Young Leaders, and 2010 Young Citizen of the Year Award Red Deer. She is currently in her last year of medical school at the University of Calgary.

RON SYDENHAM, MDiv

Pastor, Retired

Pastor Ron Sydenham served as the head pastor of College Heights SDA Church for over 18 years. He and his wife Nicole both grew up in Montréal, Québec, and came to Burman University (CUC) in 1929 when Ron felt the call to become a pastor. He has worked in several churches around Canada, and has completed the Master of Divinity Program at Andrews University. Pastor Ron sums up his ministry as a focus on "the little things" that can greatly impact lives.



VISION

To encourage the spread of ideas worth living.

MISSION

To provide a platform for the best and brightest of Burman University's faculty, alumni, and students to share their ideas, tell their stories, and engage with audiences across Canada.

ALL SPEAKERS

Faculty

TENNYSON SAMRAJ
Professor of Philosophy
God, Religion, Philosophy,
Ethics

JOHN MCDOWELL
Dean, Division of Arts
Professor of English
Creativity, Alterity, Art,
Poetry, Beauty, Truth

BRUCE BOYD
Professor of
Religious Studies
Conflict, Religion

PETER WASS
Associate Professor
of Psychology
Psychology

TIM BUTTLER
Assistant Professor of
Education
Learning, Creativity

**PAUL & DONNALEE
LEHMANN**
Professors of
Outward Pursuits
Leadership, Teamwork,
Health, Wilderness Survival,
Emergency and Disaster
Response, Hydrotherapy,
Stress Management, Team
Building

ADAM KIŠ
Assistant Professor of
International Studies
International Develop-
ment, HIV/AIDS, Research
Methods, Mission Work

PEKKA MÄÄTTÄNEN
Assistant Professor
of Biology
Research, Biology,
Discovery

PATSY GLATT
Associate Professor
of English
Diversity in Education,
Creativity, Narrative

SHEILA CLARK
Librarian
Workshops

MARC FROESE
Professor of
International Studies
Current Events,
International Relations,
Geopolitics

LOUCIUS MICHEL
Professor of Business
Entrepreneurship, Business
Workshops

CRISTIAN NEACSU
Assistant Professor of
Music
Violin, piano, words of
inspiration

LOREN AGREY
University President
International education,
administration

Alumni

ERIC RAJAH
Chair, BU Advancement
International
Development, Business Mod-
els, Humanitarianism

AZALEA LEHNDORFF
Founder, 100 Classrooms Project
International
Development, Education for
Women, International Health

RON SYDENHAM
Board of Directors Chair,
A Better World
Former Pastor,
College Heights Church

**MORGAN
HEMMINGSON**
Biology Major
Artist, Freethinker,
Scholars Student

KEITH LEAVITT
Retired Professor of Education
Education

RONDA ZIAKRIS
Education

Students

JESSICA JACOBSON
Music Major
Musician, Poet

SAMUELLE HENRY
Religious Studies Major
Feminist, Speaker

EULAINÉ NDHLOVU
Behavioural Science Major
Founder of Burman Black
Student Alliance

BOB HONEST
Wellness Major
Aspiring Businessman,
Haircuts for Humanity

SPENCER PAGE
English and International
Studies Major
Writer, Student Leader,
Scholars Student

RECHELLE-LEE SMITH
Behavioural Science Major
Editor of The Chronicle

MORGHIN SMALL
Education Major
Musician, Aspiring
Educator

DAKOTA HEISLER
Music Major
Vocalist, Choral Enthusiast

PETER DODDS
Environmental Biology
Major
Creationism, environmen-
tal science, and suburbia

OLEKSII ZAHREBA
PAA Student
International Conflict,
Peace and Justice

HOW TO BOOK

Contact Burman University's Office of Advancement to book a speaker or musician for your upcoming event. Contact information below.

LEARN MORE

The list of speakers is updated on our website several times per year. If you have specific topics of interest that you are hoping to hear about, please contact us and we will try to make arrangements suited to your needs.

www.burmanu.ca

Contact

Eric Rajah erajah@burmanu.ca

403-782-3381

